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A Mere Introduction



To The
Great City 
of The
Great Northwest

Commercial Club, Minneapolis

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Some Reasons Why



Issued By
THE COMMERCIAL CLUB



Minnehaha

Gift
Publisher

THE BEST PLACE TO LIVE.

Historical. —

Sixty years ago a few pioneers from New England settled on the east bank of the Mississippi at the Falls of St. Anthony. Eight years later an extended area on the west bank



University Gateway

of the river at the same point was opened to settlement. The settlement on the east bank was called "St. Anthony" and the new settlement formed on the west side took the name of "Minneapolis." In 1872, the two towns were consolidated under the name of the latter. From that time the growth



St. Anthony Falls.

of the city has been rapid and continuous, but at no time in its history has there been a greater increase in population, or a more substantial development of industries than during the past seven years:

Census Figures.—

1860	5,849	1900	202,718
1870	18,079	1905	261,974
1880	46,887	1908	300,000
1890	164,738		

An Attractive City.—

Nature did much to make Minneapolis a beautiful city. The slightly elevated and comparatively level plateau leading away from the falls to picturesque elevations formed an ideal spot for the building of a town.



The Minikahda Club

Citizens have followed up the advantages contributed by nature and have made and kept the city as attractive as any in the world. Its streets are broad and regular; its residence districts are not crowded and its residence avenues are bordered with trees and well kept lawns.

Many of the most picturesque spots about the city have been acquired and laid out as public parks, until the city possesses a park area of over two thousand acres, with nearly thirty miles of connecting parkways.

Minnehaha Park, surrounding the falls, made famous by Longfellow; Mississippi Park, embracing both banks of the river below the city; Loring Park and The



A Park Drive

Parade, constituting the most central feature of the system; Lake of the Isles and Lakes Harriet and Calhoun, with their encircling parkways and Minnehaha Parkway stretching from Lake Harriet to Minnehaha along the beautiful valley of Minnehaha Creek are some of the more attractive features of the system.



Harriet Parkway.

The Twenty-Mile drive, reaching from Loring Park by way

of Kenwood Parkway, the lake drives, Minnehaha Parkway and Mississippi Park to the University Campus forms a feature unexcelled in any other city.

Picturesque Surroundings.—

Minneapolis is surrounded by points of great interest and scenic beauty. The Fort Snelling military reservation adjoins the southern city limits at the juncture of the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers and is reached by trolley cars from the city.

Twelve miles west of the city lies



Soldiers' Home.



Lake Minnetonka.



Old Fort, Fort Snelling.

Lake Minnetonka, which is the summer home of many of its citizens. Within reach of the city by trolley, automobile or railway lie many other beautiful lakes and pleasure resorts.

Healthfulness.—

Minneapolis is the healthiest of the large cities of the world.

The Death Rate.—

1903	. . . . .	9.79	per thousand
1904	. . . . .	8.42	" "
1905	. . . . .	7.38	" "
1906	. . . . .	8.47	" "
1907	. . . . .	8.56	" "



University Library.

An Educational Center.—

Few cities can boast such splendid educational advantages as are possessed by Minneapolis people. There are sixty graded and five high school buildings. The teaching force numbers nine hundred and fifty and the total enrollment of pupils is 44,000. Free text books are supplied and instruction is given in manual training, commercial work and other practical lines.



South High School.



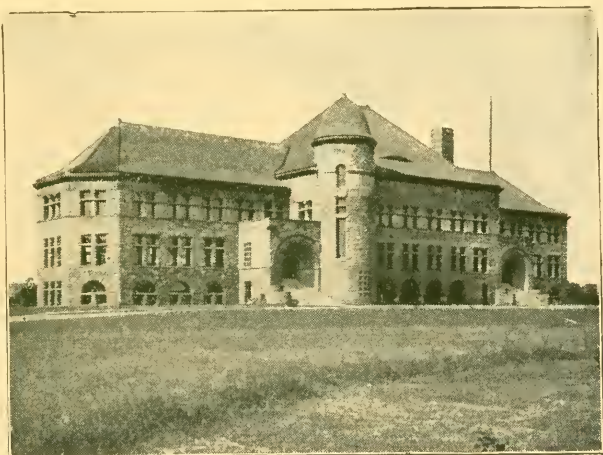
Central
High
School.

The State University.—

The University of Minnesota is located within the city on the east bank of the river near the falls. This institution has eight colleges and three schools. It has a library of over ninety thousand volumes. The enrollment last year reached nearly four

thousand and there are three hundred and thirty instructors.

It has gained rank with the greatest educational institutions of the land.



Pillsbury Hall, U. of M.

Public Library.—

Minneapolis possesses library facilities unequalled by those of any city of its size.



Public Library

A library, containing one hundred and eighty-five thousand volumes is housed in a substantial building which contains also a museum of art. The city also maintains three branch libraries and over a score of reading rooms and distributing stations. The annual circulation of the library exceeds six hundred thousand volumes.

Private Schools.—

Within the city are a large number of private and parochial schools and six commercial colleges of high standing. Stanley Hall and Graham Hall have a well deserved reputation as high class private schools.



An Art Room.

An Art and Music Center.—

Minneapolis has become the art and musical center of the Northwest. It possesses a music hall unexcelled by any in this country. A Symphony Orchestra and a number of Choral Clubs afford the people opportunity to hear the choicest music.

The Minneapolis School of Music, Oratory and Dramatic

Art and the Northwestern Conservatory of Music are schools of recognized merit.



Auditorium.

An Art School of high standing is conducted in the Library Building by the Fine Arts Society,



Y. M. C. A.

The Y. M. C. A. occupies its own home as also does the Y. W. C. A.

while the Handicraft Guild gives instruction in designing and in modeling in clay and metal.

Religious.—

Nearly every religious denomination is represented in Minneapolis. There are over two hundred churches in the city, many of them of great architectural beauty.



Wesley
Church



Court House and City Hall.

Hospitals.—

Minneapolis owns and operates a city hospital to which additions are annually being made in conformity with a finished plan for a structure which will be most complete. In addition to this, a large number of splendid hospitals are maintained in the city by hospital associations.

The Press.—

Minneapolis can boast a progressive and helpful press and it is one of the greatest aides to the development of the city. The Minneapolis Tribune (morning and evening), The Minneapolis Journal (evening), The Minneapolis Daily News (evening), Minneapolis Daglige Tidende are high class daily newspapers. A large number of weekly and monthly publications are issued, as well as a number of trade journals of wide circulation.



Residence Street.

Clubs.—

The leading social club of the city is the "Minneapolis Club," with a membership of about four hundred and fifty. This organization is now building a splendid new home at Second Avenue South and Eighth Street.

The Commercial Club has a limited membership of eleven hundred, and also has a non-resident membership of about two hundred. This organization has a double purpose. It maintains club quarters in the Andrus Building where members obtain all the privileges of a well appointed social club while it is also the leading public organization of the city.



Stone Arch Bridge and Flour Mills.

The public work of the club is carried on under supervision of the Board of Directors by a committee on Public Affairs, consisting of twenty members, and a score of subordinate committees.

In addition to these leading clubs, the Roosevelt club has become a splendid social body with well appointed quarters.

AN EXCELLENT

A Great Market.—

As a Primary wheat market, Minneapolis leads the world. The annual receipts of wheat approximate one hundred million bushels and half as many bushels of other grains are annually received. Terminal elevators within the city have storage capacity for forty million bushels. Minneapo-



Modern Elevators.

lis also leads as a fruit and produce market and it will soon become the leading stock market of the Northwest, for Armour & Company have bought, on the outskirts of the city, eight hundred acres of land upon which they are to erect a model packing plant.

PLACE FOR BUSINESS.

A Manufacturing City.—

Minneapolis leads all Northwestern cities in manufacturing. The government census for 1905 contained the following interesting figures: 39.5 per cent of the value of products from factories of Minnesota was produced by the plants of its largest city. Eight hundred and seventy-seven firms were



Butler Brothers' Building,

found engaged in manufacturing in Minneapolis. They had invested capital of \$67,000,000 employed over 26,000 wage earners and turned out a product valued at \$122,000,000.

The gain in five years in these lines was 33 per cent in capital employed and 28.8 per cent in value of products.

The great diversity of manufacturers is shown by the fact that the census officials reported one hundred and thirty-seven different classes of products from Minneapolis plants.

The importance of the city as a manufacturing center was due primarily to the natural power afforded by the Falls of St. Anthony which has been developed so as to yield forty thousand horse power. In addition to this power, the

Minneapolis Electric Company has installed, at a cost of three millions, a power plant on the St. Croix River at Taylors Falls from which twenty five thousand horse power of electric current can be brought into Minneapolis.



Chamber of Commerce.

A Wholesale Trade Center.—

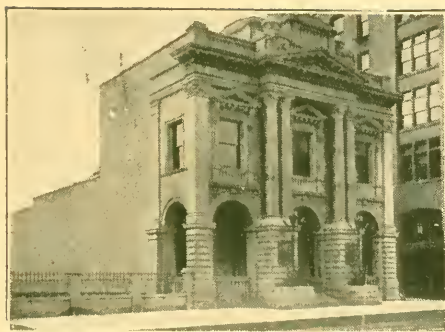
Minneapolis has become the great wholesale market for a vast fruitful territory, comprising the states of Minnesota, the Dakotas and Montana and portions of a half dozen others.

The city contains leading wholesale houses in all lines and leads all cities of the world as a distributing point for agricultural implements.

The Financial Center. -

Minneapolis has six national, eleven state banks, four savings banks and two trust companies. The banks have in capital and surplus \$12,000,000. The deposits of the commercial banks aggregate \$62,000,000 and the savings banks and trust companies hold deposits of \$22,000,000.

The bank clearings for 1906 aggregated \$1,145,462,149. Within the last two years all of the larger banks have moved into new quarters, planned expressly for their use, and Minneapolis can now boast some of the handsomest banking rooms in the world.



A Savings Bank.



A
Modern
Bank

The Flour City.—

One of the chief industries of Minneapolis, and the industry which has given it widest fame, is that of flour manufacturing. The twenty-two mills controlled by seven companies are situated about the falls and they turn out an annual production of about sixteen million barrels of the best flour made.



Mighty Mills.

A Lumber Center.—

Proximity to a vast area of pine timber made lumber manufacturing an early and important industry of the city.

Within the last few years, the cutting of lumber at Minneapolis has greatly decreased, but the city continues to be the greatest lumber distributing point in the world.

The manufacture of products of lumber, such as sash, doors, blinds, mouldings, furniture, etc., has continually increased and in these lines the total annual output is approximately \$12,000,000.

Transportation Facilities.—

A leading factor in the growth of Minneapolis is its excellent transportation facilities. Twenty-three lines of railway, operated under ten great systems, radiate from Minneapolis in every direction, reaching both oceans. The city is the Northwestern terminus of six of the seven railway lines connecting Chicago and the Twin Cities, and the home of the seventh. The city is also the home of the Soo Line and the division point between its Atlantic and Pacific divisions.



Ample Terminals.

Within the last two years all of the lines entering the city have acquired extensive acreage for the enlargement and improvement of their terminals.

A Retail Center.—

The retail business of Minneapolis approximates \$35,000,000 each year. Nicollet Avenue "the most attractive retail street in the world," is the center of the retail trade, although there are many fine houses on streets crossing the avenue and a number of thriving business centers in outlying districts.

No city can present to the shoppers more handsome or better kept stores than can Minneapolis, and this fact has made it the shopping city of the Northwest.



Nicollet Avenue at Sixth Street.

EVIDENCES OF GROWTH.

A Review.—



Andrus Building.

In every line which serves as a measure of progress the record of the past few years shows the rapid yet substantial expansion and development of Minneapolis.

Increased real estate activity, extensive building operations, the coming of Butler Brothers, the expansion of established wholesale and manufacturing plants, increased financial transactions, enlargement of railroad terminals, ex-

The Post Office Business

Continues to increase. The receipts for 1907 were \$74,715 more than for 1906.



Post Office.

Six Years' Record—

1907.. \$1,527,154.00	1905... 1,306,676.00	1903.. 1,023,195.95
1906.. 1,452,439.42	1904... 1,130,086.80	1902.. 893,109.41



National Guard Armory.

The Real Estate Transfers—

Show increased faith in the city's future.

Sale considerations for eleven years:

1907.....	\$24,911,962
1906.....	17,840,405
1905.....	18,448,558
1904.....	13,625,056
1903.....	14,224,194
1902.....	16,873,194
1901.....	11,557,585
1900.....	12,483,446
1899.....	9,717,749
1898.....	6,007,691
1897.....	7,779,426



Northwestern Knitting Factory.



River God Statue.



The Philippine Statue.



On Lake Minnetonka.

Where Minneapolis Leads.—

In healthfulness.

In attractive park area.

In the manufacture of flour.

In the receipts of grain.

In the distribution of agricultural implements.

In the manufacture of linseed oil.

In the manufacture of sash, doors, blinds, etc.

In the percentage of postal receipts to population.

In the manufacture and distribution of lumber.

In the percentage of bank clearings to banking capital.



A Park Scene

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



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